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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/719,423	11/21/2003	Eric R. Hansen	204560-73806	3387

7590 06/03/2004

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11 South Meridian Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204

EXAMINER

LU, JIPING

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3749

DATE MAILED: 06/03/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/719,423

Applicant(s)

HANSEN ET AL.

Examiner

Jiping Lu

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 4/5/04 & 4/8/04.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 26-28, 30-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Branvold (U.S.Pat. 3,584,850).

Branvold shows a mineral lime (CaO) processing inclined rotary kiln 12 with a lower combustion air end 14b and an upper material feed end 14a, 18, 20d. An air inlet opening 24e is located between two ends. A preheater or precalcining assembly 14 is positioned at the upper end 18. A stationary hood 14k is positioned proximate to the combustion air inlet lower end 14b and a burner 16a is proximate to the combustion air inlet lower end 14b.

3. Claims 26-28, 30-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tutt et al (U. S. Pat. 5,375,535).

Tutt shows a mineral lime (CaO) processing inclined rotary kiln 16, 24 with a lower combustion air end 30 and an upper material feed end 12, 20. An air inlet opening 50, 56 is located between two ends. A preheater or precalcining assembly (at 19, 52) is positioned at the upper end 12, 20. A stationary hood 32 is positioned proximate to the combustion air inlet lower end 34 and a burner 33 is proximate to the combustion air inlet lower end 34.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

6. Claims 1-25, 29 and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brandvold (U.S. Pat. 3,584,850).

Brandvold shows a mineral lime (CaO) processing inclined rotary kiln 12 with a lower combustion air end 14b and an upper material feed end 14a, 18, 20d. An air inlet opening 24e is located between two ends. A preheater or precalcining assembly 14 is positioned at the upper end 18. A stationary hood 14k is positioned proximate to the combustion air inlet lower end 14b and a burner 16a is proximate to the combustion air inlet lower end 14b. To operate the combustion rate at sub-stoichmetric ratio at the lower end and super-stoichmetric at the upper end is merely an obvious matter of fuel and air adjustment. By the controls 32, 34, 36, 24 in

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order to obtain a complete combustion for clean air exhaust. This is well known practice in the combustion art.

7. Claims 1-25, 29 and 34 are rejected under 103 over anticipated by Tutt et al (U. S. Pat. 5,375,535).

Tutt shows a mineral lime (CaO) processing inclined rotary kiln 16, 24 with a lower combustion air end 30 and an upper material feed end 12, 20. An air inlet opening 50, 56 is located between two ends. A preheater or precalcining assembly (at 19, 52) is positioned at the upper end 12, 20. A stationary hood 32 is positioned proximate to the combustion air inlet lower end 34 and a burner 33 is proximate to the combustion air inlet lower end 34. To operate the combustion rate at sub-stoichmetric ratio at the lower end and super-stoichmetric at the upper end is merely an obvious matter of fuel and air adjustment in order to obtain a complete combustion for clean air exhaust. This is well known practice in the combustion art.

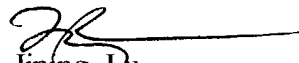
Conclusion

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jiping Lu whose telephone number is 703-308-2354. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM - 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ira Lazarus can be reached on 703 308-1935. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Jiping Du
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3749

J.L.